

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SSM-03 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-13 /078 W
-----211121Z 041481 /21

P R 211015Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7790
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2118

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, LE, KU, PFO
SUBJ: KUWAITI EFFORTS TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF CAIRO ACCORDS STYMIED

REF: KUWAIT 1975

1. DURING MEETING APRIL 21 ARRANGED TO ENABLE JOHN
COUNTRYMAN, DEPDIR NEA/ARP, TO MEET MFA UNDERSEC RASHID
AL-RASHID, AMBASSADOR REFERRED TO EXTENSIVE ATTENTION GIVEN
BY KUWAITI PRESS APRIL 20 AND 21 TO GOK EFFORTS TO FIND
COMPROMISE FORMULA TO IMPLEMENT CAIRO ACCORD ACCEPTABLE BOTH
TO PLO AND LEBANESE CHRISTIANS. UNDERSEC ADMITTED THAT
KUWAIT WAS PRESENTLY LEADING EFFORTS TO TRY TO ARRANGE
RECONCILIATION BETWEEN TWO SIDES AND RECALLED HIS
FOREIGN MINISTER'S RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH PLO LEADERS IN
KUWAIT IN THIS AIM (REFTEL).

2. AL-RASHID ADMITTED THAT FORMULA PROPOSED BY GOK
AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON BAYJAN HAD RUN INTO A NUMBER OF
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DIFFICULTIES, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH WAS CHAMOUN'S INSISTENCE
THAT ANY IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT BE SIGNED ONLY BY QUADRI-
PARTITE COMMITTEE AND THE LEBANESE, I.E. THE PHALANGISTS,
WITHOUT PLO PARTICIPATION. AL-RASHID DESCRIBED PLO POSITION
AS GENERALLY REASONABLE, WITH ONLY A FEW PROBLEMS RELATING
TO NUMBERS INVOLVED IN POLICING PALESTINIAN CAMPS, ETC.
PLO HAD ALREADY GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF

HEAVY WEAPONS, BUT THEY REMAINED CONCERNED OVER FACT THAT PHALANGISTS HAD NOT YET REDUCED THEIR ARMAMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE SOUTH.

3. GOK WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE EFFORTS TO FIND SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM AND WOULD BE CONSULTING SAUDI ARABIA AGAIN TO SEE WHAT FURTHER STEPS COULD BE TAKEN. AL-RASHID OBSERVED THAT \$90 MILLION HAD ALREADY BEEN SPENT TO MAINTAIN ARAB DETERRENT FORCE AND A SIMILAR AMOUNT WAS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING PAID AGAIN FOR THE SECOND SIX-MONTH PERIOD.

4. AL-RASHID SAW THE INTRANSIGENCE OF CAMILE CHAMOUN AS THE MAJOR OBSTACLE TO THIS EFFORT AND EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE USG COULD HELP IN CONVINCING HIM TO BE REASONABLE. HE SAID HE HAD MADE THE SAME REQUEST TO THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR THE PREVIOUSDAY. PIERRE GEMAYEL, ON THE OTHER HAND, HE CONSIDERED TO BE A RESPONSIBLE MAN WITH SOUND JUDGMENT, BUT IT WAS CHAMOUN WHO WAS PROLONGING THE TENSION IN LEBANON.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONCILIATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT02118
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770138-0887
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770434/aaaabdcb.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b8f2b0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KUWAIT 1975
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2740064
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAITI EFFORTS TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CAIRO ACCORDS STYMIED
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LE, KU, PLO, AL, (AL-RASHID, RASHID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b8f2b0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009